

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 are presently active, Claims 1, 4, and 6 having been amended by the present amendment.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Walker et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,199,014) in view of Ohki et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,199,014) and further in view of Fukushima et al (U.S. Pat. No. 4,807,157). Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al in view of Ohki et al, and further in view of Bradshaw et al (U.S. Pat. No.5,528,518). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al in view of Fukushima et al.

Firstly, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the courtesy of Examiner Long and Primary Patent Examiner Tuan Ho to conduct an interview for this case on November 17, 2004. During the interview, Applicants' representative discussed the present invention and the applied prior art. In particular, Applicants' Figures 6 and 7 were discussed in light of Figure 14 of Ohki et al. Clarifications to the independent claims were discussed and agreed to during the interview, those clarifications being now presently filed.

Regarding the claim rejections, the outstanding Office Action acknowledges that Walker et al do not teach the associating means automatically associating the captured images to the current location information or that information about a plurality of captured images at a point along a route or output to a display as management data for the route. The Office Action then asserts that Ohki et al teach such features in numbered paragraphs [0052], [0072], and [0073]. During the interview, Examiner Long further pointed out the teachings in Ohki et al in numbered paragraph [0078] regarding scrolling the screen to move the actual photo-

images displayed thereon forward and backward, “such an effect is obtained that the actual photo-images sequentially displayed ... give a continuity of actual photo-images on the screen as if actually walking down the street.”

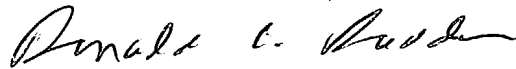
As discussed and agreed to during the interview, Ohki et al fail to disclose the number of captured images M (e.g., the number of images recorded in the IC card 3) for each recording location. As illustrated in the specification, the image count M can appear in each rectangular frame showing images, indicating the number of images picked up in each recording location.¹ Hence, as discussed during the interview and as presently amended, independent Claims 1, 4, and 6 define that the route information indicates a number of captured images at a point along a route.

Hence, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 4, and 6, and the claims dependent therefrom, patentably define over the applied prior art.

¹ Specification, page 10, line 21, to page 11, line 3.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073
Ronald A. Rudder, Ph.D.
Registration No. 45,618

Customer Number
22850

(703) 413-3000
Fax No.: (703)413-2220
BDL:RAR:clh
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